

## Indiana General Assembly Members Help PREF Residents Dress for Re-entry

Indianapolis, Indiana (February 20, 2009)—Staff from the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility (PREF) recently received a generous donation of clothing from The Honorable Members of The Indiana General Assembly, and State Representative Peggy Welch was on-hand to assist with the donation effort.



PREF staff accept the clothing donations from State Representative Peggy Welch.

The clothing was donated as a contribution to PREF's "Dress for Re-entry" clothing bank, which has been in place almost three years. Dress for Re-entry is similar to a Goodwill or Salvation Army where gently-used clothing is distributed to PREF residents (offenders) while at the facility. The clothes are provided to the incarcerated men who do not have support from family or friends in the community who can provide them with clothing.

Residents of PREF are encouraged to wear civilian clothing while incarcerated to help prepare them for their return to Indiana communities. Donations such as the one from members of the General Assembly are greatly appreciated, not only by the residents of the facility, but also by the staff who work diligently to ensure that the residents are provided the necessary tools for success upon their release.

"The Dress for Re-entry clothing bank at PREF is a tremendous re-entry tool for offenders, and I am very grateful to the members of the Indiana General Assembly for their contributions," said IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss. "When these offenders have adequate clothing to wear to job interviews and other social functions, they will be more likely to have a successful transition back to their community."

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